

**Question for written answer E-002203/2024
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Piotr Müller (ECR)

Subject: AI Act implementation relief – implications for tech startups and SMEs

In view of the introduction, under the AI Act, of regulations that could have an adverse impact on the activities of tech startups and SMEs, please answer the following questions:

1. In the wake of the Draghi Report, is the Commission considering the option of regulatory burden relief for tech startups, given what the AI Act has imposed on them and what action is the Commission taking to minimise these barriers?
2. How is the EU planning to support SMEs in adjusting to meet the requirements of the AI Act, especially where high-risk systems are concerned and are special support mechanisms envisaged for these entities?
3. Is the Commission planning financial support programmes or other aid instruments that could help companies cover the additional costs arising from compliance with the AI Act?

The rules associated with the AI Act have a major impact on innovation and technological development in Europe, so it is crucial that the regulations concerned are balanced and support entrepreneurship, rather than hinder it.

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